



LICKING COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) Vaccination Recommendations

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While Ohio does not currently have any cases of measles, the Licking County Health Department (LCHD), in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), wanted to take the opportunity to inform you that there are currently several active measles outbreaks in the United States. These outbreaks have been linked to travelers who were infected with measles in other countries such as Israel, Ukraine, and the Philippines, where large measles outbreaks are occurring.

Measles is an extremely contagious, vaccine-preventable disease. The measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine is highly effective at preventing transmission of measles. One dose of MMR vaccine is approximately 93% effective at preventing measles, and two doses of the vaccine have been found to be approximately 97% effective.

Two doses of MMR vaccine are recommended by the CDC for all children without a medical condition that would prevent them from receiving the vaccine. The first dose is recommended to be given between the ages of 12 to 15 months, and the second dose from ages four to six years old. However, children that did not receive the MMR vaccine during these recommended ages are still eligible to receive the MMR vaccine. LCHD recommends that any child that has not been vaccinated against measles receive the MMR vaccine so that they will be protected against this potentially deadly disease.

School districts in Ohio are required to ensure that students receive the MMR vaccine unless the vaccine is not medically appropriate for a student or their parents or guardian objects for reasons of religion or conscience. **If a case of measles occurs in a school building, unvaccinated children will be required to be excluded from school until 21 days after the last student confirmed to have measles shows symptoms of the disease in that school building.**

LCHD will continue to work with our partners at ODH and CDC regarding this issue, and we will provide additional updates as they become available. Please be sure to check our social media outlets on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for updates as well.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the MMR vaccine, please contact Gale Neville, Infectious Disease Nurse at 740-349-6515 or gneville@lickingcohealth.org.